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## FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

**DATE:** June 1, 2005  
**FILE NO:** ROC920010079US1  
**TO:** Examiner Ronald Laneau  
**FAX NO:** 703/872-9306  
**COMPANY:** USPTO  
**FROM:** Gero G. McClellan  
**PAGE(S) with cover:** 11  
**ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW?** ☐ YES ☒ NO

### RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED APRIL 21, 2005

**U.S. SERIAL NO.:** 09/848,572  
**FILING DATE:** May 3, 2001  
**INVENTOR:** Bates et al.  
**EXAMINER:** Ronald Laneau  
**GROUP ART UNIT:** 3627  
**CONFIRMATION NO.:** 6826

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**JUN 01 2005****PATENT**

Atty. Dkt. No. ROC920010079US1

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**In re Application of:  
Bates et al.

Serial No.: 09/848,572

Confirmation No.: 6826

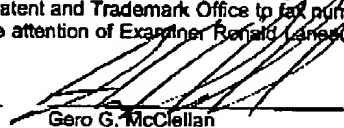
Filed: May 3, 2001

For: Systems and Methods for  
Operating Vending Machines

Group Art Unit: 3627

Examiner: Laneau, Ronald

MAIL STOP AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF FAX 37 CFR 1.8	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office to fax number 703/872-9306 to the attention of Examiner Ronald Laneau on the date below:	
June 1, 2005 Date	 Gero G. McClellan

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED APRIL 21, 2005**

In response to the Final Office Action dated April 21, 2005, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on July 21, 2005, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 09-0465 for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

The Claims are listed beginning on page 2 of this paper. Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.